

**Fort Fairfield Town Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Council Chambers**  
**Wednesday, July 18, 2012**  
**6:00 P.M.**

Councilors: David McCrea, Kim Murchison, Mark Babin, Terry Greenier and John Herold

Staff: Bill Campbell, Mike Bosse, Tony Levesque and Tom Towle

Citizens: 12

Roll Call – Chair Kim Murchison asked that the record reflect that all councilors are present with the exception of David McCrea

- II. Prayer - Councilor Mark Babin offered the prayer
- III. Pledge to the Flag - All in attendance pledged their allegiance to the Flag.
- IV. Public Comment Period – Jay Edgecomb, he was here to represent the girls Junior Softball Team. The Festival each year has a softball tournament, it is held right here in Fort Fairfield. What you might not know is the last two years, assuming this year doesn't change, the championship games have been held out of town. This is part of the festival, part of Fort Fairfield, it brings in revenue for Fort Fairfield. It not only helps the community financially, its part of the festival. The championship game on Tuesday was rained out, it just so happens to be Caribou verses Fort girls. After the game it was decided by Mr. Towle and the coaches for the other team that they were going play the game Thursday in Caribou. I had a problem with this last year, but didn't voice my concerns. However, this being the second year that this has happened I went to Mr. Towle after the game and expressed my concerns that this is a Fort Fairfield festival not a Caribou Cares About Kids. This is where they came to play the tournament, it is our home field advantage and the game should be played here. The game has been schedule to be played in Caribou on Thursday. To me that is unacceptable and I have expressed my concern to Tom and to Mr. Foster and I have not got any results. I would like the Council to take action.
- V. Correspondence and Reports:
  - A. Licenses/Permits – NONE
  - B. Financial Report – Dan – This month's financial statement closes out the fiscal year and represents twelve months of activity. Our income for the year was over budget by \$29,795.00. Revenue sharing, excise tax and property taxes were the major contributors to this increase. The department heads did a great job in managing their budgets while at the same time providing expected services. Our expenses were \$110,000.00 under budget leaving the town with a surplus of \$138,545.00 that can be applied against the deficit in this year's budget.

- C. Tri-Community Landfill Report-Dan- Next meeting is scheduled for the 20<sup>th</sup>. Will be meeting with Presque Isle Council and Manager, we are going to start exploring the possibility of Tri Community and Presque Isle working together on how we can efficiently handle the disposal of garbage here in Aroostook County.
- D. Update on Senior Citizens Housing – Dan – Tomorrow at 2 o'clock we will be opening bids on the project. If we come in under budget we will be in a great place. Five contractors are bidding, 3 from Aroostook County and two from down state.
- E. Update on Health Clinic – Dan- We have retained the services of BR Smith, they have met with Pines and we are in the process of working on a lease. It is our goal to go out to bid the first week of August. Tony is working very diligently on all of the things that need to be done to be in compliance with the CDGB grant.
- F. Police Department Update – Bill –Have been busy preparing for the festival. Chief will be leaving for vacation and returning on August 8<sup>th</sup>, Sgt. Newell will be in charge. The two new reserve officers have finished their on the job training hours with us and are starting to work 4-5 hours with a full time officer, getting them used to patrol duties. We will be receiving our sharps kiosk that we purchased through a DEP grant. Should be installed in August in the Police Departments lobby.
- G. Update on Rail Line Transfer/Railroad Insurance – Dan sent a letter to Ian Simpson, General Manager of the Maine Northern Railway regarding liability insurance. Dan was really concerned because of their behavior in relation to his conversation with him. If you haven't noticed there are rail cars at the plant loaded with metal and they brought those rail cars in after I told them that they could not operate. Please to tell you that I got a phone call from their director of operations, Nick Belcour. He provided us with a certificate of insurance, and I have given them permission to work on the rail line. Nate Moulton of MDOT is diligently working on the transfer of the line to the State.
- H. Review ACOE Inspection of the Dike – Periodically the dike is inspected by representatives from the Army Corp of Engineers to determine if the structure is being properly maintained. This was conducted on September 12, 2011 and Chief Durepo received the findings. Overall the inspection was positive due to the work that Paul, Mike, George and their respective departments have done. We do have some minor work in clearing some brush and trees and we will need to have McGillans bring their large excavator to clean out the trash racks in front of the pump station.
- I. Update on Riverside Park Dedication–Dedication is scheduled for Friday, July 20<sup>th</sup> as 12:00 PM. The boy scouts will be there helping out with the BBQ.

- J. Update on Installation of Coal Furnace at Public Works – The furnace has been ordered, George has the area cleaned out where it will be going. Once it is installed, public works will be building a new furnace room and coal bin. The cost that we are looking at with the furnace, the two rooms and the plumbing we have enough money in our emergency reserve account and our heating oil reserve account.
  - K. Update on the Halfway House Pet Rescue – We had a meeting with the HHPR committee, they had concerns with not owning the facility and were not comfortable with the lease. We are not able to do what we said we would do unless the facility is owned by the Town. Everyone agreed that we would look at other alternatives and perhaps get together at a later date.
  - L. Update on Paving Project - This is done, a lot of positive comments. 14 miles have been paved because of George’s hard work.
- VI. Old Business -
- A. Approve Resolution #12-05 authorizing an Affordable Housing Development District – This resolution authorizes the designation of the Meadows Senior Housing Tax Increment Financing District.  
  
Motion: Mark Babin moved to approve Resolution #12-05 Authorizing an Affordable Housing Development District  
Second: Terry Greenier Vote – All affirmative
  - B. Approve the Meadows Senior Housing TIF District Development Plan application.  
  
Motion: Terry Greenier moved to approve the application for the Meadows Senior Housing TIF District Development Plan  
Second: Mark Babin Vote – All affirmative
  - C. Approve Credit Enhancement Agreement with Fort Fairfield Development Limited Partnership –  
This establishes the process for the implementation of the program. This document will be signed by Dan on behalf of the Town and Greg Murchison on behalf of the owner, (Fort Fairfield Development Limited Partnership). Owner will be paying the taxes and the Town will be reimbursing 75%  
  
Motion: Mark Babin moved to approve Credit Enhancement Agreement With Fort Fairfield Development Limited Partnership  
Second: John Herold Vote – All affirmative
- VII. New Business
- A. Approve a New Town Street “Harmony Lane” - this will be the street used for

the new housing and clinic. We need to have this approved by the council so Tony can have it listed with 911.

Motion: Terry Greenier moved to approve a new Town Street "Harmony Lane"

Second: John Herold

Vote – All affirmative

- B. Approve Thomas Rochford as a Commissioner to the Fort Fairfield Housing Authority Board. Tom will be completing Karen Peers term which expires in 2015.

Motion: John Herold moved to approve Thomas Rochford as a Commissioner to the Fort Fairfield Housing Authority Board

Second: Mark Babin

Vote – All affirmative

- C. Approve Resolution #12-06 to Authorize Application for CDBG Funds – These funds are used around the State to build residential handicapped assessable ramps for those confined to wheelchairs. They have asked Fort Fairfield to continue to administer these funds on their behalf.

Motion: John Herold moved to approve Resolution #12-06 to Authorize Application for CDBG Funds

Second: Terry Greenier

Vote – All affirmative

- D. Vote for Officers & Board Members for Maine Municipal Association -

Motion: John Herold moved to approve voting for Peter Nielsen for Vice-President for a 1 year term and John Butler, Jr., Michael Crooker and Marianne Moore each for a 3 year term as Directors

Second: Terry Greenier

Vote – All affirmative

- E. Vote for Representation to MMA's Legislative Policy Committee -

Motion: Terry Greenier moved to approve James Bennett to serve on the Legislative Policy Committee

Second: John Herold

Vote – All affirmative

- F. Approve Felch & Company to Conduct Annual Audit – They have been providing this service since 1998 and do outstanding work

Motion: Terry Greenier moved to approve Felch & Company to Conduct Annual Audit Contract

Second: John Herold

Vote – All affirmative

- IX. Minutes: June 20, 2012

Motion: Terry Greenier moved to approve Minutes of June 20, 2012 as written.

Second: Mark Babin

Vote – All affirmative

X. Warrants: #26 - \$417,130.63; #27- \$241,114.93, #1 - \$403,649.30  
Motion: Terry Greenier moved to accept warrant #26, #26 & #1 as presented.  
Second: John Herold Vote – All affirmative

XI. Other – None

XIII. Adjournment at 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca J. Hersey  
Council Secretary